United Nations A/71/573–S/2016/909

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
28 October 2016

Original: English

General Assembly
Seventy-first session
Agenda item 31
Prevention of armed conflict

Security Council
Seventy-first year

Letter dated 26 October 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith the statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine on the illegal visit of the President of the Russian Federation, Vladimir Putin, on 26 October 2016 to the temporarily occupied Autonomous Republic of Crimea, Ukraine (see annex).

I would appreciate your kind assistance in having the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 31, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Volodymyr **Yelchenko**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 26 October 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine on the illegal visit of the President of the Russian Federation, Vladimir Putin, to the temporarily occupied Autonomous Republic of Crimea, Ukraine

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine expresses its strong protest against yet another visit, not coordinated with Ukraine, of the President of the Russian Federation, Vladimir Putin, which started on 26 October 2016, to the temporarily occupied Autonomous Republic of Crimea, Ukraine.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine has repeatedly emphasized the inadmissibility of visits, not coordinated with Ukraine, of Russian officials to the sovereign territory of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders, which include the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol.

Ukraine considers this and other similar so-called "visits" as further attempts to legitimize the illegal annexation of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol that have already resulted in economic, social and humanitarian problems on the peninsula, as well the blatant neglect by the Russian Federation of the Charter of the United Nations, General Assembly resolution 68/262 on the territorial integrity of Ukraine, the Baku Declaration, Parliamentary Assembly resolutions of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, obligations under the Treaty between the Russian Federation and Ukraine on Friendship, Cooperation and Partnership of 1997 and other norms of international law.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine states that, according to the norms of international law, the Russian Federation, as the occupying State, its officials and illegal "Crimean authorities" and their representatives who commit illegal acts and make illegal decisions bear full responsibility for these violations.